

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A tonneau system for a cargo box of a vehicle, said cargo box having a sidewall, said tonneau system comprising:

a first rail member having a horizontal portion;

a second rail member engagable with said first rail member;

a cover spanning said first rail member and said second rail member; and

a rail retaining mechanism slidably coupled to said second rail member, said rail retaining mechanism positionable in a first position generally adjacent said horizontal portion of said first rail member to prevent said second rail member from being disengaged from said first rail member and a second position spaced apart from said horizontal portion of said first rail member to permit said second rail member to be disengaged from said first rail member.

2. The tonneau system according to Claim 1 wherein said rail retaining mechanism comprises:

a latch member;

a fastener slidably coupling said latch member to said second rail member; and

a guide member being slidably received said second rail member to maintain a predetermined alignment of said latch member relative to said first rail member.

3. The tonneau system according to Claim 2 wherein said fastener is a thumbscrew.

4. A tonneau system for a cargo box of a vehicle, said cargo box having a sidewall, said tonneau system comprising:

a first rail member having a horizontal portion;

a second rail member engagable with said first rail member;

a cover spanning said first rail member and said second rail member; and

a rail retaining mechanism positionable in a first position locking said second rail member to prevent said second rail member from being disengaged from said first rail member and a second position unlocking said second rail member to permit said second rail member to be disengaged from said first rail member, said rail retaining mechanism further urging said second rail member upward in said second position.

5. The tonneau system according to Claim 4 wherein said rail retaining mechanism comprises:

a locking pawl; and

a spring biasing said locking pawl into said first position.

6. A tonneau system for a cargo box of a vehicle, said cargo box having a sidewall, said tonneau system comprising:

- a first rail member having a horizontal portion;
- a second rail member engagable with said first rail member;
- a cover spanning said first rail member and said second rail member; and

- a pivot member pivotally coupled to one of said first rail member and said second rail member, said pivot member being positionable in a first position locking said second rail member to prevent said second rail member from being disengaged from said first rail member and a second position unlocking said second rail member to permit said second rail member to be disengaged from said first rail member; and

- a prong portion extending from said pivot member, said prong portion engaging the other of said first rail member and said second rail member and urging said second rail member upward in said second position.

7. The tonneau system according to Claim 6, further comprising:

- a spring biasing said pivot member into said first position.

8. The tonneau system according to Claim 7 wherein said spring is a leaf spring.